

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

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SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-02 DRC-01 /158 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7241

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 5387

E.O. 11652: NGDS

SUBJECT: ENERGY: THE EC NINE AND THE ECG

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 5106

B) EC BRUSSELS 5293

1. DURING THE MEETING OF THE EC ENERGY COMMITTEE ON JULY 17, ECG CHAIRMAN DAVIGNON PRESENTED TO FRANCE A SUMMARY OF THE CURRENT EFFORTS IN THE ECG TO PRODUCE AN AGREED IEP. COMMISSION AND PERM REP SOURCES TO WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN DESCRIBED DAVIGNON'S PRESENTATION AS COMPREHENSIVE AND "TOUGH" AND SAID THAT BOTH HE AND COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SIMONET, WHO CHAIRED THE MEETING, MADE CLEAR TO THE FRENCH THAT THE OTHER EIGHT HOPED THAT FRANCE WILL JOIN THEM IN ACCEPTING THE IEP, BUT IF IT DOES NOT THEY

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INTEND TO PRESS AHEAD ANYWAY. THE FRENCH ASKED A NUMBER

OF TECHNICAL QUESTIONS BUT NO REAL OBJECTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE IEP WAS RAISED.

2. THE FRENCH, WHOSE DELEGATION WAS LED BY CABOUAT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, RESPONDED THAT THEY WERE NOT EMPOWERED TO GIVE AN OFFICIAL RESPONSE BUT WOULD STUDY THE QUESTION CAREFULLY. OUR SOURCES HAVE TOLD US THAT THE POSITION OF THE OTHER EIGHT IS THAT FRANCE NOW HAS BEEN MADE FULLY AWARE OF THE DETAILS OF THE IEP AND THEY ARE NOW AWAITING A REPLY AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL.

3. A SOURCE IN THE DUTCH PERMANENT DELEGATION HAS ADDED THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSION AT YESTERDAY'S MEETING, SIMONET WILL GO TO PARIS TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES THE EVENING OF JULY 18. OVER THE WEEKEND, THE COMMISSION WILL DRAW UP A PAPER BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS IN THE ENERGY COMMITTEE AND BETWEEN SIMONET AND SAUVAGNARGUES. THIS PAPER WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE ENERGY COMMITTEE AT A SPECIAL MEETING ON JULY 22 (DURING THE EC COUNCIL MEETING). THE PAPER THEN WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE COUNCIL IN RESTRICTED SESSION THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 23 AND IT IS AT THIS TIME THAT FRANCE IS EXPECTED TO MAKE ITS INTENTIONS CLEAR.GREENWALD

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